



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

EDITORIALS

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The fifth annual meeting of the Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology will be held in Montreal, Wednesday and Thursday, September 3 and 4. The opening session will occur Wednesday at 2 p. m. The Hon. John R. McDougall, Editor of the *Montreal Witness* and Hon. Frank B. Kellogg, president of the American Bar Association will deliver addresses of welcome. The annual address will be given by the Hon. Morefield Storey of Boston. This will be followed by the annual address of the President, Justice Orrin N. Carter. There will be reports from the following committees: Committee on Indeterminate Sentence, Probation, Insanity, Criminal Statistics, Organization of Courts, Crime and Immigration and Criminal Procedure. The discussion of these reports will occupy the sessions on Thursday. The meeting will close with the banquet on Thursday evening. The headquarters and the place of meeting will be the Hotel Windsor.

E. A. GILMORE, *Secretary*.

PRISON PLANS DELAYED IN ILLINOIS.

In this Journal, Vol. III, No. 5, at pages 795 ff., we have published a detailed account of the work of the Illinois State Prison Commission and the plans for a new prison as arranged by Mr. W. C. Zimmerman of Chicago, architect.

For many years improvement in the State Penitentiary at Joliet has been urgent. In their report to the Governor of the state dated October 1, 1904, the prison commissioners, referring to an earlier bill providing for an appropriation for a new cell house, say:

"But the measure was defeated by the dilatory plea, that the location of the penitentiary was not good, and was getting worse by reason of the proximity of the Illinois Steel Company's works, which are encroaching upon us gradually, and whose grounds reach within 200 feet of the entrance to the prison, and it ought to be moved.

"The unpleasant smoke, fine dust and gases from the blast furnaces and rolling mills of the Steel Company often envelop the entire prison grounds, to the extreme discomfort of the officers and prisoners."

This indicates the altogether unsatisfactory nature of the surroundings of the prison, which contribute to the foulness of the interior. The interior conditions are vividly described in the following extract from the same report:

PRISON PLANS DELAYED

"When one thinks of two men spending never less than fourteen hours each day, during six days of the week, and on the seventh nearly twenty-one hours, in a space so reduced—7x7x4—and with a slop bucket in the cell for their use in responding to the calls of nature, which no care can prevent from being offensive and pestilential in every sense of the word, he is compelled to ask what excuse the great state of Illinois can offer for compelling the management of this penitentiary so to deal with men who are required by law to serve sentences here, that they must eat, rest and sleep in quarters so contracted, so repellent, and so utterly unfit for the purpose, that their very existence is a disgrace to the state that permits it.

"We do not believe in any system that would tend to pamper prisoners nor to make the prison so attractive that confinement therein would have no terror for the evildoer, but we believe in a system that will preserve at least the health and strength of the inmates, so that they can perform the daily tasks allotted to them here, and be able to leave the institution in such physical and mental condition that they will have no excuse for not going to work as soon as occupation is found for them.

"One visit to the cell houses during the night time, a few breaths of the atmosphere coming from them, is all that is necessary to convince the most skeptical that the half has not been told by us, and we here and now enter our solemn protest against the continuance of such a system of herding men together to the detriment of their physical and moral natures."

Far from improving, the situation at Joliet has grown worse, at least as far as the immediately surrounding conditions are concerned. This statement is supported by the following which is taken from the warden's report, dated September 30, 1906:

"In previous reports made by the authorities of this institution great stress has been laid on the necessity for a new system of cell houses, with such modern improvements as are necessary to protect and promote the health of the inmates, but within the past two years the developments of the steel mills have been such as to show that they will more and more encroach upon the limits of the penitentiary, and thereby increase the discomfort and danger to health arising from the smoke and gaseous fumes of that plant.

"From careful investigation I am convinced that it is only a question of a reasonable time when they will add to their extensive properties coke ovens, in which case the penitentiary will be practically enveloped in an atmosphere which will vitally affect the health of all connected with our institution—employees and inmates alike—and such a condition of affairs ought not to be longer tolerated by the great state of Illinois.

"I, therefore, strongly urge the suggestion that you, in your report to his excellency, the Governor, bring to his special notice the deplorable situation in which the penitentiary finds itself in this respect, and recommend that the legislature authorize the purchase in a vicinity as near the present site of this prison as is consistent with due regard to surroundings and convenience of access to canal and railroad facilities, of a tract of from five hundred to one thousand acres of land, together with the necessary authority to erect thereon a new penitentiary worthy of our state.

"This could be done almost entirely by the labor of our own prisoners, as has so successfully been accomplished at the new United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, where the inmates not only built the structure, but also made the bricks from which it was constructed."

But it should be unnecessary now to go into such details. The above extracts emphasize the point that the need for improvement is not one that has suddenly risen. The people of the state are represented by a board of prison commissioners who have acted under spe-

PARENTAL SCHOOLS AND JUVENILE CRIME

cial authority to select and purchase a site for a new prison. The representatives of the people in the legislature have up to the present appropriated for the purpose of this commission a total of about \$425,000, and the money has been spent. The question now is whether and how soon, the state of Illinois will realize on the investment already made. The conditions that surround the prison cannot become more favorable than they are at present. Indeed they must become worse.

Other measures are important and urgent, and not all can be fought to a proper conclusion at once. In a case like this, however, delay is waste to say the least. Another session of the legislature must not be allowed to come and go without substantial progress being made toward the realization of the plans of the commission.

ROBERT H. GAULT.

PARENTAL SCHOOLS AND JUVENILE CRIME.

A bill is pending in the legislature of the state of Illinois which provides what is undoubtedly a salutary modification in the Parental School Law. It is designated as House Bill 749. It was introduced by the Hon. Mr. Rothschild of Chicago at the request of the present writer. It grew out of the work of the committee on Vocational Education of the Illinois Branch of the Institute.

At present the Parental School Law in this state provides that truants 14 years of age or under in cities of over 100,000 population may be confined in the Parental School. It is in the nature of a penalty which assists in the enforcement of the compulsory education law. Children who are beyond the age of 14 may not be legally confined in such a school. At the same time the compulsory school law in Illinois requires that all persons who are not legally employed must be at school even beyond the age of 14 and up to 16 years. To those who are legally employed at this time of life the compulsion does not apply. But since the Parental School is closed to such persons during these two critical years, the enforcement of school attendance is less practicable than it would be otherwise, and in Chicago alone thousands of such children are idle in the streets and breeding crime. It is at this point that House Bill 749, if it should become law, would perform a valuable service. Its effect will be to amend the present law by providing simply that persons neither legally employed nor in school even up to the age of 16 years may be sent to the Parental School. In the opinion of many who are in a position to judge wisely in such matters the amendment proposed would be productive of great good. It